

Judge Denies Torrance Bid to Halt Water Election

Greatest Audited Circulation In the Torrance - South Bay Area

Torrance Herald

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

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EVERY SUNDAY AND THURSDAY

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BOMB BLAST INJURES TEENAGERS

Tree Lights Flare, Burn 9-Year-Old

A home-made bomb and defective Christmas tree lights resulted in serious injuries Saturday to three local youngsters, one of them a cerebral palsy victim.

Gerald LaGuardia, 15, and his sister, Linda LaGuardia, 14, both were mangled by razor sharp, shrapnel-like fragments when the bomb exploded in the back yard of their home at 2760 Andrea Ave.

Peggy Bell, 9, the cerebral palsy victim, suffered first and second degree burns over 70 per cent of her body when her dress was ignited by a flash from a string of Christmas tree lights at her home, 22920 Galva Ave.

OFFICER JERRY Snyder said the LaGuardia pair were playing with an eight-inch long, half-inch diameter piece of aluminum tubing that had been filled with match heads.

The tubing blasted apart when the boy hurled a brick upon it. The pieces severely mangled the boy's left hand and both victims suffered jagged gashes about the face and arms.

The officer said the boy told him the bomb was given to him by a young friend, who said it would "make a lot of noise."

SNYDER SAID the Bell girl ran screaming from her house when her clothing caught fire as she plugged the Yule lights into the socket of an extension cord. Neighbors caught her and smothered the flames. Her widowed mother was at a nearby store at the time, Snyder declared.

By co-incidence, both of the girl victims have twin sisters who were not with them at the time of the pre-Christmas tragedies.

All of the youngsters were rushed to Harbor General Hospital for treatment.

Steel Dispute on Tomorrow's Agenda

Both sides of the steel dispute will meet with Joseph F. Finnegan, director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, in Washington tomorrow in an effort to end the eight-month-long dispute.

The steel companies are expected to disclose their attitudes toward new demands of the United Steelworkers Union.

Bird Heads Red Cross Area Drive

Douglas Bird has been named Red Cross 1960 fund chairman of the southern region, it was announced by Frederick A. Schnell, Los Angeles Chapter fund chairman.

Bird, who is plant manager of Pacco Division of Fibreboard Paper Corp. in Wilmington, has served on the Wilmington Red Cross board of directors for four years.

He is president of the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce and a member of Rotary. He serves on the advisory committees of Banning High School Adult Education and Harbor College Adult Education divisions, and on the advisory boards of the YMCA and YWCA.

Bird will head up the Red Cross' 1960 fund drive in this region, which includes Torrance, Gardena, Lomita, San Pedro, Palos Verdes, and Wilmington.

Bird is a resident of Palos Verdes.

Legion Kids Party Today

The American Legion of Torrance has set today as the date for their annual Yule party. Veterans who have children under 12 years of age, are invited to bring them to the American Legion Hall, 1109 Border Ave., from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

A beautiful Christmas tree, and a gaily decorated hall will be the setting for Santa Claus who will greet the Kiddies and present each of them with a nice gift.

Guests of honor will be the Southwood Boy Scout Troop 998 and Cub Scout Pack 996-C, who are being sponsored by the Bert S. Crossland Post of the Torrance American Legion.

Additions at Montgomery High School Completed

Completion of two classroom additions and a new boys' classroom building at Bishop Montgomery High School, 5430 Torrance Blvd., is announced by Rt. Rev. Msgr. Patrick Dignan, superintendent of Catholic schools.

Each of the three single-level wood frame and stucco units follows the simple functional lines of the original structures built in 1957.

Large window areas permit maximum use of natural light, and additional illumination is provided by surface-mounted, fluorescent fixtures.

Special design features include exposed wood ceiling

beams with acoustical tile ceiling. Some classrooms were planned to double as audio-visual rooms.

With the new classroom building and additions, which include scientific facilities and equipment, the total number of classrooms has been increased to forty and permits the high school to accommodate twice its present 600-student capacity. Existing campus structures include an administration building, chapel, study hall, library, book store, locker room building and athletic field.

Connecting covered walks link the new classroom building to the chapel and administration building.

Space Age is Here But Kids Still Want Bikes

Although the Space Age has made an impression, the Christmas wants of the younger generation haven't changed too much with the years, school district officials decided this week.

According to a giant letter to Santa posted on a bulletin board in second grade classrooms, guns, bikes, dollies, and puppies still head the list of most popular Christmas gifts for eight-year-olds this year.

Mrs. Maxine Ruckle and Miss Lois Ruhl prepared the huge letter to Santa, which incorporates the first choice in Christmas gifts among members of their classes. The two teachers share a room, since Meadow Park is on double sessions this year.

GUNS LED the list, with nine requests among the 65 children in the classes. Eight youngsters each wanted bikes and dollies. Five requested

puppies, including one specific demand for a Great Dane and another for a Collie. The other three just want a dog.

Mobility of the younger set is indicated by the nine requests for bikes, four for skates, two for race cars, and one each for a go-cart, water skis, and quarter midget racer. One student asked for a baby stroller.

ON THE athletic front, three Los Angeles Rams fans asked for football suits of their idols. Only one baseball fan requested a suit. The call of the outdoors inspired two to ask for cowboy outfits.

Three youngsters wanted portable radios and two sought record players.

There were two requests for jet planes, and one each for a missile set, Army set, and "Battle of the Blue and Gray" army set. Two children asked for trains and another for a "yard bird," which he ex-

plained was "something I saw in a train magazine."

THERE WERE miscellaneous requests for wood dough, a doll house, a watch, and popcorn set. There was one student who just couldn't decide what he wanted most.

Impact of TV on the younger set was apparent as a number of the youngsters asked not only for specific presents, but for the brand names of the product as well. One boy, for instance, announced he would settle for nothing less than a "Steve Canyon" Jet.

On Water

Judge Says City Can't Stop Vote

Action by the city to obtain an alternative writ of mandate as a means of halting annexation of city land to a county waterworks district was squelched Friday by a Los Angeles Superior Court judge.

Declining to issue the writ was Superior Judge Ellsworth Meyer, who issued an order indicating he disagreed with the city's contention that the election should be halted.

Subscribers to the Narbonne Ranch Water Co. No. 2 situated in the northwest section of Lomita and adjacent Torrance areas will vote Jan. 5 on a proposal to annex the area to the County Waterworks District No. 13.

City Attorney Stanley Remel-meyer and Assistant Robert Dower contended that laws cited in their case proved the county has no authority to annex part of an incorporated city into such a waterworks district.

Judge Meyer disagreed with their argument and denied the petition. An appeal to a higher court on the matter will be made, the HERALD was told. A meeting to discuss the matter has been scheduled for the council chambers at 7 p.m. next Tuesday preceding the 8 p.m. council meeting.



COMES TO TOWN . . . Santa Claus arrived by helicopter in Torrance Saturday at noon and is pictured as he alighted at the Security First National Bank parking lot, El Prado and Cravens. This was one of six stops Santa made and was sponsored by retail merchant groups in the area. (Herald Photo)

Realtors Seat Dawson As President of Board

Lee R. Dawson was installed as president of the Torrance-Lomita Board of Realtors, and Don Houston received the first annual Realtor of the Year award, at the Board's 22nd inaugural ceremonies Friday night at the Plush Horse.

More than 250 Christmas-minded Realtors and their guests saw retiring president Kenneth M. Miller turn over his gavel of office to 1960 president Dawson. Jack Tarney, who succeeds S. R. "Bob" Farnsworth as 21st district vice-president of the California Real Estate Assn., served as installing officer.

Peters, Rose Craig, Delbert Vaughn, R. D. McEwen and Paul H. Hill.

Miller in delivering his final speech as president, pointed



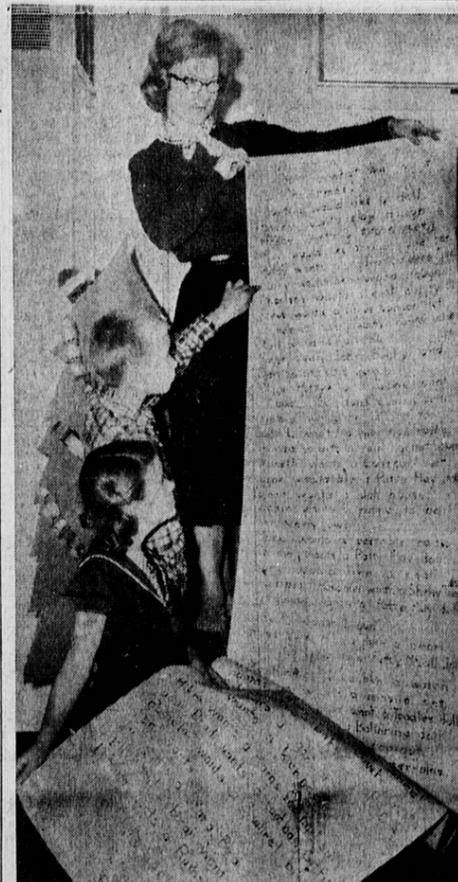
LEE R. DAWSON Heads Realty Board

out that eight million dollars in real estate was sold by Torrance and Lomita Realtors during 1959, as compared to \$3,500,000 in real estate during 1958. Dawson expressed the belief that sixteen million dollars in sales could be reached during 1960.

DAWSON'S FIRST official duty as president was to present a scroll of merit to THE HERALD. Co-publisher Glenn W. Pfeil accepted the award.

Master of ceremonies for the affair was attorney Donald Hitchcock, who also introduced honored guests. Charles Kestner led the salute to the flag, Councilman Nicholas Dralle delivered the invocation, and Mayor Albert Isen gave the welcoming address.

Program committee consisted of Don Houston, chairman; Rose Craig, Irene Baker, and Dawson.



WHAT THEY WANT — Members of second grade classes at Meadow Park Elementary School made up a giant list of their Christmas wants and posted it in this huge letter on their bulletin board. Apparently, children's wants haven't changed too much over the years. Shown inspecting the list are Gary Gilbertson, Connie McCoach, and Miss Lois Ruhl, the teacher.

Still Time to Enter Decoration Judging

Entries in the Jaycee-sponsored outdoor Christmas display contest will be received through tomorrow, it was announced here yesterday by Rich Gerald, chairman of the arrangements committee.

Residents of the city wishing to have their displays judged may obtain entry blanks at the Chamber of Commerce building, 1511 Cravens Ave., or may call the Chamber office tomorrow, he said.

Conducted under the sponsorship and supervision of the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce, the contest is scheduled to be an annual affair.

Judging will be conducted between Monday and Wednesday and awards will be made in two divisions, religious and novelty. Plaques will be awarded winners Wednesday evening.



IDEA MAN . . . Tsuyoshi Okura, clerk at the Torrance Annex Post Office, receives a draft for \$15 and a certificate of merit signed by Postmaster General Arthur Summerfield from Mrs. Clara Conner, Torrance postmaster. Okura won the award for building the ramp shown in the picture and designed it for use in weighing tubs of mail without lifting them onto scales.

A Penny for your Thoughts

With Christmas Eve just a few days away the Penny for Your Thoughts photographer asked five people in the Torrance area the following question: "Do you think holding Christmas office parties is a good practice?"

Paul Schwab, 200 John St., Manhattan Beach, telephone company employee:

"I don't think there is any harm in it, but I do make an exception to that when it is a drinking party. It isn't good practice drinking, even at an office party, when most people have to drive home afterwards."

Mrs. M. E. Anderson, 16327 Spinning Ave., housewife:

"I am against all office parties at Christmas time. Even when the management does not provide the booze someone is always able to sneak in a bottle. I don't like my husband to come home drunk just because it is Christmas."

George Shabbas, 14009 Casimir, Sears credit manager:

"I think that controlled Christmas parties are a morale builder. When they are not controlled they often get completely out of order and unhappy circumstances can arise then, or after the party is over."

Carl Peterson, 26846 Buckskin Ln., insurance salesman:

"No, I definitely can not see any value to them. Parties of this type can cause people to make fools of themselves, especially when there is liquor served to mixed groups."

Jeanne Palmer, 5745 Sharynne Ln., office receptionist:

"I think office Christmas parties are wonderful and always a lot of fun. I am looking forward to the one we will hold in the office where I work Thursday. I have never had anything unpleasant happen to me."

Contracts Awarded

The Certified Tank Sealing Co. of Torrance has been awarded contract totaling more than \$198,000 for component overhaul projects, Donald McLaman, regional director of the Small Business Administration announced here Friday.